

**Working Group on a Possible International System
of Cooperation**

UPOV/WG-ISC/2/3

**Second Meeting
Geneva, April 5, 2017****Original:** English
Date: August 9, 2017

REPORT*adopted by the Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance***OPENING OF THE MEETING**

1. The Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation (WG-ISC) held its second meeting in Geneva on April 5, 2017, under the chairmanship of the Vice Secretary-General of UPOV. The list of participants is reproduced in the Annex to this report.
2. The meeting was opened by the Chair, who welcomed the participants.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The WG-ISC adopted the agenda as presented in document UPOV/WG-ISC/2/1.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES IN RELATION TO “NEEDS OF PVP OFFICES”

4. The WG-ISC considered document UPOV/WG-ISC/2/2, Annex I.

DUS Examination*Needs of PVP Offices*

5. The WG-ISC agreed to:
 - (a) add capacity-building in DUS examination as a need of PVP Offices;
 - (b) broaden the scope of “Needs of PVP Offices” identified in document UPOV/WG-ISC/2/2, Annex I, item (ii) to cover the “Needs of PVP Offices” for use and exchange of DUS reports in accordance with their policy; and
 - (c) organize a presentation by the Office of the Union and the Chairperson of the Technical Committee (TC) at the third meeting of the WG-ISC on existing arrangements for DUS cooperation and the results of the TC survey on cooperation in DUS examination.

Relevant issues in document CC/92/10 “International system of cooperation”

6. The WG-ISC agreed that some of the issues were not of a high priority and/or were not feasible in the short/medium-term but agreed to retain all issues for the time being, as far as they were within the terms of reference of the WG-ISC.
7. In relation to Issue 9(a), the WG-ISC agreed that it would be useful to consider whether quality assurance systems introduced by individual members of the Union (without UPOV involvement) could facilitate cooperation in DUS examination.

8. The WG-ISC agreed to organize presentations, at its third meeting, by members of the WG-ISC on existing quality assurances systems in members of the Union.

Novelty

Needs of PVP Offices

9. The WG-ISC agreed to organize presentations at its third meeting:

(a) by the Office of the Union: on key elements in the explanatory notes on novelty and the role of the PLUTO database; and

(b) by members of the WG-ISC: on examples of the implementation of the novelty provisions.

Relevant issues in document CC/92/10

10. The WG-ISC agreed that consideration of a preliminary observation office would not be a priority.

Priority

Needs of PVP Offices

11. The WG-ISC agreed to organize presentations at its third meeting:

(a) by the Office of the Union: on key elements in the explanatory notes on priority; and

(b) by members of the WG-ISC: on experiences in the implementation of the priority provisions, including determination of the date of the first application.

Denomination

Needs of PVP Offices

12. The WG-ISC agreed to await for the outcome of the work by the Working Group on Variety Denominations (WG-DEN) before further discussions concerning variety denominations.

Relevant issues in document CC/92/10

13. The WG-ISC agreed that consideration of a preliminary observation office would not be a priority.

Cooperation in administrative matters

Needs of PVP Offices

14. With regard to "(i) a means of mutually recognizing documents produced by other members of the Union, e.g. a digital signature", the WG-ISC agreed to organize presentations at its third meeting by members of the WG-ISC on ways to mutually recognize documents.

15. With regard to "(ii) a mechanism to receive payments for the take-over of DUS reports from other members of the Union", the WG-ISC noted that some members of the Union, including Australia, Canada and Japan, did not charge for the take-over of DUS reports.

Relevant issues in document CC/92/10

16. The WG-ISC noted that there were some concerns with regard to Issue 24 but agreed to retain the issue for the time being, on the basis that it would not be a priority.

Facilitating applications

Needs of PVP Offices

17. The WG-ISC agreed with the “Needs of PVP Offices” identified in document UPOV/WG-ISC/2/2, Annex I.

Relevant issues in document CC/92/10

18. The WG-ISC noted that Issue 19 would imply substantial new work for the Office of the Union and agreed that it would not be appropriate to consider that issue.

NEXT STEPS

19. The WG-ISC agreed that its third meeting should focus on the presentation of information on the current situation within UPOV and within individual members of the Union participating in the WG-ISC in relation to the items identified above, with a view to facilitating consideration of substantial matters at its fourth meeting.

DATE AND PROGRAM OF THE NEXT MEETING

20. The WG-ISC, with the agreement of the Chair of the Administrative and Legal Committee, agreed to propose that the next meeting of the WG-ISC (WG-ISC/3) be held in Geneva on the afternoon of October 24, 2017.

21. *This report was adopted by correspondence.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEXE I / ANNEX I / ANLAGE I / ANEXO I

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / LIST OF PARTICIPANTS /
TEILNEHMERLISTE / LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

(dans l'ordre alphabétique des noms français des membres /
in the alphabetical order of the French names of the Members /
in alphabetischer Reihenfolge der französischen Namen der Mitglieder /
por orden alfabético de los nombres en francés de los miembros)

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